

**CITY OF MESA**  
**HUMAN RELATIONS ADVISORY BOARD (HRAB)**  
**Ad Hoc Issue Research and Action Team (IRA)**  
April 17, 2014 Minutes

The Issue Research and Action Team of the City of Mesa met on April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2014,  
at 5:00pm at the Mesa City Plaza, 20 E. Main St., Ste. 250.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Cliff Moon, Chair  
Denise Heap  
Frank Johnson

MEMBERS ABSENT

STAFF PRESENT

Andrea Arenas  
Ruth Giese

GUESTS

1. Call to Order.

Mr. Moon called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

2. Items from citizens present.

There were no citizens who requested to speak to IRA.

3. Approval of minutes from the March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014 IRA meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Johnson to approve the March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014 IRA meeting minutes, Ms. Heap seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Hear, discuss and take action on the Mesa Speaks, Mesa Listens: Community Conversations on Discrimination series:

- Event schedule and participation list.

Ms. Arenas reviewed the logistics for the three upcoming events with the board members. Ms. Heap suggested making the questions available online for those who may not feel comfortable participating in person, or are unable to attend any of the scheduled dates. Ms. Arenas stated that staff would be able to make participation available online through an anonymous form; however, Ms. Arenas warned that it will likely not be ready until after the dialogue events. Ms. Heap made a motion to create a web version of the questions discussed at the community conversations so citizens may also participate online. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion, the motion carried unanimously.

- Facilitator/ note taker training.

Ms. Arenas noted that there are currently enough facilitators and note takers to accommodate at least fifty people at each event. The facilitators and note takers have been invited to attend an orientation meeting scheduled one hour prior to the regular board meeting on April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2014 at 5pm in the Lower Level Council Chambers. Mr. Moon questioned what if the facilitators or note takers are unable to attend the orientation. In response, Ms. Arenas noted that they have already been supplied with a packet outlining their duties and helpful hints as well as asked to arrive an hour prior to start to review with the event moderator. Mr. Moon suggested that the facilitators, note takers and any donors be recognized for their volunteerism and contribution with a certificate of appreciation. Mr. Johnson made a motion to recognize all volunteers and donors with a certificate of participation. Ms. Heap seconded the motion, the motion carried unanimously.

- Event donations (i.e. food, drinks, raffle prizes).

Ms. Heap informed that NEDCO will be supplying food and drinks for the first event. Ms. Arenas advised that Dr. Liuzzo provided a donation for snacks and beverages for the second event. For the third event, only water is permitted so board members agreed to seek donations for raffle prizes such as gift cards.

5. Hear, discuss and take action on diversity speaker's bureau as a community resource.

Ms. Arenas advised that she has not received any applications from non-profit speakers requesting to be listed on the website. Ms. Arenas stated that they would require at least five participants before being able to offer this free resource. Mr. Moon and Ms. Heap noted that they have several contacts in mind that they would reach out to.

6. Hear, discuss and take action on City's support for employees' gender transition in the workplace.

Ms. Arenas stated that they were unable to have a city attorney attend the meeting as requested at the previous IRA meeting; however staff recommendation is to move forward with the intentions of the board. Ms. Heap recommended taking action in the upcoming month given that the agenda was already full.

7. Discuss future agenda items, meeting dates, announcements, other housekeeping.

Mr. Moon mentioned the Delivering Democracy Lecture featuring Forest Whitaker at Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church on April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2014 at 6:30pm.

- Next meeting will be held on Thursday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at 5:00pm.

8. Adjournment.

Meeting adjourned at 5:35pm.

Submitted By:



Ruth Giese,  
Diversity Program Administrator